



## Barry A. Skalberg

October 25, 1973 - June 27, 2021

Barry A. Skalberg, 47 of Grand Island died at home, surrounded by family, Sunday, June 27, 2021 after a courageous battle with cancer. He was a warrior, who kept fighting with dignity and grace up until the end. He was so encouraged by all of the friends and family who fought alongside him and offered support.

Services will be 2 PM Friday, July 2nd at Peace Lutheran Church in Grand Island. Reverend Luke Biggs will officiate. Visitation will be from 5-7 PM Thursday at Peace Lutheran Church.

Burial will be in the Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Norfolk at 11 AM Saturday. Memorials are suggested to the family for the Skalberg Children's College Fund. Additionally memorials can be made to the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation in Barry's name. All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

Barry was born on October 25, 1973 in Norfolk, Nebraska the son of Robert and Betty (Kliment) Skalberg. He was raised and received his education in Norfolk, graduating from Norfolk High School in 1992. Barry received his Bachelors and Masters Degrees from Doane University and a Graduate Certificate in History from the University of Nebraska, Kearney. Barry met his wife Traci Hines at Doane University. They married in 1998. This union was blessed with three children, Samuel, Cara, and Lucas.

Barry joined the teaching staff at Grand Island Senior High in 1996. He taught American History and Economics. Most recently he taught dual credit World History and Business Law. He was a 'lifer' as he had just finished his 25th year of teaching at Grand Island Public Schools and planned to teach there for his whole career. He was a steady force in the Social Studies Department, providing the even temper and boundaries that were needed to help students succeed. He often asked students in his Economics classes, 'Who in here wants to learn how to become a millionaire?' When he had their attention, he taught about investing, the stock market, dividends and returns.

Baseball was one of Barry's passions. He played baseball while in high school and one year in college. He coached baseball at many levels throughout his entire life including city league teams, legion teams, traveling baseball teams and most recently the Junior Varsity Team at Grand Island Senior High. If he wasn't coaching, he was watching his beloved Minnesota Twins play baseball on TV.

Barry loved his family. His wife Traci was his best friend and confidante. Their relationship was special. There was rarely a fight, always a lot of humor, and a deep appreciation and friendship. They loved to pack up the minivan with the kids and drive on cross-country adventures. Barry was a master route and itinerary planner. His trips always included a baseball game in a major league ballpark, some historical place or monument, and perhaps an amusement park. Traci handled logistics. After spending 11 days in the van one summer and returning to Grand Island with everybody still on speaking terms, Team Skalberg decided that they had indeed won and would continue to make this an almost annual tradition.

Barry was a wonderful father. His children looked up to him as he could answer nearly all of their questions, because he knew the answer! The

Skalberg children had no need for google. Additionally, their Dad really listened to them. Barry loved to attend his children's games, events, and concerts. He absolutely delighted in their unique talents and skills from art to music to silly videos to army forts. He was so proud of them and his steady presence will be with them in all that they achieve.

Barry kept score at Grand Island Senior High basketball and football games but never kept score at life. He did what was right, even if it was uncomfortable. He wasn't interested in glory, but process mattered. He was kind in heart and faithful in spirit. He understood, as his time on earth grew short, where his true home was, and as of Sunday, Coach Skalberg was suited up...ready to play, coach, or whatever his position is on God's team.

Those left on this side to cherish his memory include his wife, Traci; children, Samuel, Cara, and Lucas; brothers Brad Skalberg of Norfolk, Nebraska and Bryan Skalberg of Portland, Oregon, sister Rebecca (Seth) Snedigar of Valley, Alabama; parents-in-law Bonnie and Gary Hines of O'Neill, NE; sister in-law Crystal Saling (Jim) of Lynnwood, Washington; and nieces and nephews Kallie Skalberg, Issak Skalberg, Alex DeMaderios, Emily DeMaderios, Nikolas Skalberg, Livia Skalberg, Madyson Snedigar, Connor Snedigar, Savanna Saling and Lily Saling.

He is preceded in death by his parents Robert and Betty Skalberg; and grandparents Henry and Martha Kliment and James and Loretta Skalberg.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Peace Lutheran  
1710 N. North Rd  
Grand Island, NE 68803

## Celebration of Life

JUL 2. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Peace Lutheran  
1710 N. North Rd  
Grand Island, NE 68803

# Tribute Wall



“ *Barry A. Skalberg*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.*



July 01, 2021 at 11:47 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.*



June 30, 2021 at 10:57 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.*



June 30, 2021 at 09:36 PM



“ *Care and Compassion Spray* was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.



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June 30, 2021 at 07:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.



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June 30, 2021 at 12:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.



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June 30, 2021 at 10:54 AM



“ *Heavenly Light* was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.



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June 30, 2021 at 10:46 AM

EB

“ *Knowing God sends His comfort and care! Eunice Brandt*

Eunice Brandt - June 30, 2021 at 08:34 AM

LB

“ *Please accept our sincere sympathy to the entire family of Barry. Traci we are so very sorry and praying for peace and comfort for you and the children. He is walking and talking with God and his family who have gone before him. In sympathy, Lynn and Dennis Behlen and Family*

Lynn M Behlen - June 30, 2021 at 12:38 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.*



June 29, 2021 at 09:53 PM

BS

“ *Traci, Gary, Bonnie & family, My sincere sympathy to all of you for your loss. Thinking of you and keeping you in my prayers.*

Barb Schroeder - June 29, 2021 at 08:23 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.*



June 29, 2021 at 08:23 PM

LS

“ *Libby Saling purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Barry A. Skalberg.*



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**Libby Saling** - June 29, 2021 at 08:10 PM